



Bryce Yokomizo
Director

November 27, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: **SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS FOR STAGE 1 CHILD CARE SERVICES**

In accordance with your Board's February 23, 1999 instructions, this is to notify you of our intent to proceed with sole source services contract renewal with the thirteen Child Care Resource and Referral/Alternative Payment Program (R&R/APP) agencies for Stage 1 Child Care Services. The term of the contracts will be for a three-year period from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2006.

BACKGROUND

The current thirteen contracts were approved by your Board in December 2000 and expire June 30, 2003. On October 30, 2002, DPSS received approval from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to enter into new non-competitive, three-year contracts with these agencies. Per CDSS Purchase of Service regulation 23-621.15, such approval is needed when counties believe unique circumstances exist to justify sole source contracts.

The R&R/APPs are performing the contract services satisfactorily. The co-location of their staff in each of our offices has greatly increased our ability to outreach to all persons in need of child care services.

JUSTIFICATION

The R&R/APP agencies are the only entities that meet all requirements and can provide the full range of Stages 1, 2, and 3 child care services that are required under State law (enacted in 1997 by AB 1542). This law requires that all three stages of child care services are to be provided through a seamless system that permits access to immediate, quality, and affordable child care for CalWORKs participants.

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The R&R/APPs are exclusively qualified to perform these services because only these agencies have Stages 2 and 3 contracts with the California Department of Education to provide child care resource and referral services, as well as direct provider payments, maintain a computerized countywide child care inventory for retrieval of resource data, and have authority to access the State Community Care Licensing listings of licensed center based and family child care home providers for enhanced referrals. The agencies unique capability to provide uninterrupted child care services to current and former CalWORKs participants is crucial to the success of County Welfare-to-Work programs and retention of employment by participants as they transition through all stages of child care and move towards self-sufficiency.

Unless otherwise instructed by your Board, we will proceed with re-negotiation of the thirteen contracts.

BY:cjr

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel